

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
TCI Recycling - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: POLREP #1
First & Final PolRep for TCI Recycling Site-PJ
TCI Recycling
A21Y
Hudson, NY
Latitude: 42.3272190 Longitude: -73.7097270

To: Michael Hoppe, USEPA Region 02, ERRD-RPB
Christopher Jimenez, USEPA Region 02
James Daloia, USEPA, Region 2, ERRD-RPB
Doug Kodama, USEPA Region 2 ERRD
Tim Grier, USEPA Headquarters 5202G
Beckett Grealish, USEPA Region 2, ERRD, RAB

From: Eric Daly, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 8/30/2012

Reporting Period: 08/02/12 thru 08/16/12

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	A21Y	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:		Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	8/2/2012	Start Date:	8/2/2012
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	8/4/2012
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

On 08/02/12 @ 1:30 AM, EPA was notified of a fire at the TCI facility in Ghent, New York. The facility was reportedly a hazardous materials recycling facility, specializing in PCB containing oils. EPA immediately contacted the NYS DEC responder at the scene and was informed that the facility contained materials

including various recycled oils and PCB contaminated oil. It was estimated that the facility contained 80,000 gallons of oil. At that time, local emergency management officials had evacuated a 1/2 mile radius around the facility. DEC requested immediate assistance from EPA for air monitoring, air sampling and general multi-media sampling.

1.1.2.1 Location

39 Falls Industrial Park Road
Hudson, NY 12534

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Fire and resulting smoke plume impacting surrounding community and emergency responders. Fire was consuming PCB Oil, sodium, diesel fuel, propane, non-PCB containing mineral oil (less than 50 ppm PCB) in storage, and PCB containing mineral oil with 50-499 ppm PCBs which were stored on the facility.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date On 08/02/12 @ 1:30 AM, EPA was notified of a fire at the TCI facility in Ghent, New York. The facility was reportedly a hazardous materials recycling facility, specializing in PCB containing oils. EPA immediately contacted the NYSDEC responder at the scene and was informed that the facility contained materials including various recycled oils and PCB contaminated oil. It was estimated that the facility contained 80,000 gallons of oil. At that time, local emergency management officials had evacuated a 1/2 mile radius around the facility. DEC requested immediate assistance from EPA for air monitoring, air sampling and general multi-media sampling. The EPA Region 2 Duty officer (OSC Norrell) immediately notified and deployed the after hours responder (OSC Rosoff) and the Weston Solutions: Removal Support Team (RST). EPA and RST response personnel mobilized at the scene at approximately 0800 hrs. At the time of OSC Rosoff's arrival, on August 2, the fire was ongoing with a heavy plume still visible. Based on information received from DEC responders, it was projected that the plume affected a large area extending north east from the facility. Firefighting efforts were suspended during the night when explosions were heard from within the facility. The response was located approximately 12 miles from the Massachusetts border. EPA Region 1 was advised of the situation. OSC's Hoppe and Solecki deployed to assist OSC Rosoff with air monitoring activities and eventually relieve the after hour responder. Along with OSCs Hoppe and Solecki, the Environmental Response Team (ERT) was notified and requested to assist on-site with environmental monitoring. A unified command was established to respond to the immediate threat posed to public health by the hazardous substances being released via the smoke plume. The unified command included the NYSDEC, the PRP, the local fire and police and EPA. NYSDEC served as the lead for the unified command. The PRP provided technical information regarding the quantity and type of waste which was burning. The local emergency responders performed firefighting activities and evacuations. EPA provided air monitoring data to support decisions being made in the unified command. Specifically, EPA set up particulate monitors with data loggers and AreaRAEs, with real-time air monitoring capabilities, for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Lower Explosive Limit (LEL), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S), Oxygen (O₂) and Ammonia (NH₃) around the site perimeter. These compounds and particulates are typically found in smoke plumes during a hydrocarbon (oil) fire. EPA also assisted NYSDEC with wipe samples for PCBs, and sampling of run off water and soils affected by run off water. During the early stages of the fire it was uncertain what materials were actually involved in the fire. Most of the oils present were mineral oil; however, there was some storage of oil that contained low levels of PCBs. On Friday 08/03/12 OSC Daly relieved OSCs Hoppe and Solecki. ERT and a portion of Weston Personnel also demobilized from the site. Additional

wipe samples for PCBs were taken by NYSDEC with EPA assistance in areas immediately surrounding the facility, as well as outlying areas in adjoining towns down wind and directly in the path of the smoke plume. At that time, the fire was extinguished. All of these sample results were subsequently reported as non-detect for PCBs. On August 4, 2012, the fire was extinguished and EPA and Weston demobilized.

All of the EPA Region 2 data for the monitoring and sampling activities were compiled and subsequently released for dissemination to NYSDEC. The data is available to the public on: The Columbia County's Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/columbiacountyemergencymanagementoffice> or at the NYSDEC public information website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/84125.html>.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

TCI Recycling of Hudson, New York was identified as the PRP.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Note: Quantities of Waste are listed as not documented since it is unknown how much of these materials were consumed in the fire and released in resultant smoke plume.

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
PCB Oil (consumed in fire)	Air	Not Documented			
Sodium (Metallic) (consumed in fire)	Air	Not Documented			
non-PCB containing mineral oil (less than 50 ppm PCB) (consumed in fire)	Air	Not Documented			
PCB containing mineral oil with 50-499 ppm PCBs (consumed in fire)	Air	Not Documented			

2.2 Planning Section

No information available at this time.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

On 08/16/12, OSC Hoppe and OSC Daly attended a public meeting for TCI organized by Assembly Person Didi Barrett. Also in attendance were representatives from NYSDEC, NYSDOH, NYS Ag & Markets, NYS DHSES and Columbia County Emergency Response Agencies. Each agency described their participation in the emergency response. Questions that were brought up by the public included: requests for more sampling in the surrounding community, access to plume maps/data, local emergency notification procedures, TCI inventory at the time of the fire, fire fighting capabilities (specifically fire fighting foam), adverse health effect of responders and community, TCI site cleanup plans, and the rebuilding of the TCI facility. NYS DEC has developed a website for the TCI cleanup <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/84125.html>.

The first steps in the ensuing cleanup planned for the TCI facility will include debris removal and stabilization of the remaining structures. The cleanup will be performed by a contractor hired by TCI under the oversight of DEC and the state Health Department. EPA will not participate in this action

A consent order was signed between TCI and DEC on August 16, 2012 which establishes how water from the site will be treated to remove PCBs before it is discharged and requires TCI to submit a demolition workplan and a second workplan for an onsite environmental investigation in the area surrounding the building footprint

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.